

Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A foot pedal for use as an automotive brake or clutch operator, comprising:

an elongated lever body comprised of a metal tubular core having a hollow interior;
a plastic component at least partially enclosing the exterior of said metal tubular core, said plastic component including an integrally formed foot pad at one end of said elongated lever body and a pivot lug at the other end.

2. (Original) The pedal according to claim 1 wherein said tubular core is constructed of steel.

3. (Previously Presented) The pedal according to claim 1 wherein said plastic component is over molded onto said elongated lever body.

4. (Original) The pedal according to claim 1 wherein said elongated lever body is curved.

5. (Original) The pedal according to claim 3 wherein said plastic comprises nylon.

6. (Withdrawn) A method of manufacturing an automotive brake pedal

comprising the steps of:

forming an elongated lever body from a steel tubular core;

said step of forming an elongated lever body further including the step of overmolding a plastic component at least partially over said steel tubular core;

said step of overmolding said plastic component further including the step of molding a foot pad integral therewith at one end of said elongated lever body and a pivot lug at the other end thereof.

7. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 6 wherein a glass filled plastic is used to overmold said plastic component.

8. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 6 wherein said step of forming an elongated lever body further includes the step of forming said tubular core into a curved shape.

9. (New) The pedal according to claim 1 wherein said plastic component includes a portion projecting out from said tubular core and having said pivot lug formed therein of said plastic so that said tubular core does not form a part of said pivot lug.

10. (New) The pedal according to claim 1 wherein said metal tubular core hollow interior is substantially unoccupied.